

IN RECOGNITION OF EMPIRE CITY
IRON WORKS ON THE OCCASION
OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Empire City Iron Works, the oldest and largest steelmaker in New York City. For the past 100 years, Empire City Iron Works has played an integral role in developing New York's distinctive urban landscape. At a time when many of its competitors are struggling, Empire City's specialized service and ability to adapt to changing market conditions make it a model for new businesses in the region.

Empire City Iron Works was established in 1904 by Leopold Heffner, an ironworker who immigrated to the United States from Austria. Early in its history, Empire City produced cast iron frames and covers for coal-delivery holes installed in New York City sidewalks, some of which remain to this day. During World War II, Empire City's employees worked diligently to provide supplies to the U.S. Navy, constructing ammunition boxes and gun racks, as well as watertight doors for ships produced in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. In later years, Empire City made enormous contributions to New York City's power grid, one of the most reliable networks in the country. In cooperation with Consolidated Edison, the company built almost every power plant in the New York metropolitan area.

Today, Empire City Iron Works furnishes and installs a wide range of metal products including steel pan and ornamental stairs, structural steel, railings and walkways. On occasion, it works directly with artists, cutting and fitting pieces to create sculptures according to the artist's specifications. The company has also undertaken a number of high-profile projects in recent years, such as the extensive renovation of the Museum of Modern Art and the construction of the first new building at the World Trade Center site. With projects ranging from the Time Warner Center in Manhattan to the Atlantic Center Mall in Brooklyn, Empire Iron Works continues to thrive; at present, it has more than 75 employees at its factory in Long Island City, Queens.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that my distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to this fine company and its exceptional work in New York City. I wish the management and employees of Empire City Iron Works another 100 years of success.

REMEMBERING WILLARD T.
"BILL" HODGE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on September 21, 2004, Willard T. "Bill" Hodge got on his tractor to clear some brush and weeds from his farm. It would be the last time this prolific farmer would tend to his historic and treasured land, but his contributions to agriculture in Illinois will be remembered for many harvests to come.

Bill Hodge started farming in Champaign County in 1956 on his farm in Seymour, Illinois, which to this day remains one of the oldest farms in the county. In the 1970's, Bill served on the Champaign County Zoning Board where he had the opportunity to venture from township to township listening to the concerns of area farmers. Mr. Hodge used this experience to come to Washington, DC to tell agriculture's story to members of Congress. He also served on former Representative Ed Madigan's Farm Advisory Committee.

In 1981, The News Gazette named Bill Hodge Farm Leader of the Year. He served on the Champaign County Forest Preserve District from 1987 to 1993 during which he was credited for leading the district stably and successfully.

Bill Hodge cared deeply about what was good for his fellow farmer. This intertwined with his interest in local politics as he made successful efforts to get his colleagues involved in the process.

While many in Champaign County feel the loss of Bill Hodge, comfort can be taken in the fact that he passed away on a gorgeous Tuesday in September doing what he loved the most. Whether it was tending to his own farm or helping the agriculture community in Champaign County, Bill Hodge always left the land in better shape than he found it.

He will truly be missed.

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL
BIBLE WEEK NOVEMBER 21-28, 2004

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Bible Week. I am honored and pleased to serve as Congressional Co-chair for National Bible Week, November 21-28, 2004. It is my hope and expectation that people of faith throughout the United States will join together to celebrate the Bible's core messages of fellowship, justice, peace, righteousness and love. I am proud to be a part of this annual event.

I congratulate the National Bible Association for its dedication to encouraging people to read and take interest in the Holy Bible. Indeed, it is a special privilege to have the opportunity to be guided and inspired daily by words, phrases and stories some of which are 3,000 years old. These ancient writings have been an extraordinary source of strength, guidance and wisdom to persons across this nation and around the world.

The Holy Bible is an extraordinary living document—like our Constitution—which continues to inform our thinking as well as our national conversation on both moral and ethical issues. I'm delighted to join in this celebration of National Bible Week.

HONORING BILL AND SHEILA LAMBERT AND RABBI PETER J. RUBINSTEIN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheila and Bill Lambert, as well as Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein, for receiving the International Humanitarian Award, which is the highest honor that the World Union for Progressive Judaism can bestow. These three distinguished individuals have worked diligently and selflessly to advance the cause of human rights and social equality, and I am proud to recognize their many achievements on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I was honored to be invited to attend the International Humanitarian Awards Dinner hosted by the World Union for Progressive Judaism, which represents over 2,000,000 progressive Jewish congregations in over 41 countries. This respected organization seeks to strengthen modern Jewish life through supporting congregations; integrating Jewish religious traditions with inclusiveness and gender equality; and advancing social justice in the spirit of tikkun olam, which means repairing the world.

Sheila Lambert's professional experience includes twenty years at The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. Her extensive volunteer experience focuses on Jewish continuity and helping underserved and disadvantaged populations, particularly women and children.

A member of the board of Project Keshet, Sheila is the Founder and Board President of Bottomless Closet, and is a member of the Board of Governors and Overseers of Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion. In addition, Sheila is a Founder and Board Chair of Summerbridge, is on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Children's Learning Lab, which is a children's museum, and is the former Vice President of the Board at Congregation Rodeph Shalom, a major Reform congregation in Manhattan. She is also a member of the Advocacy Council for the Citizen's Committee for Children.

Sheila's husband, Bill, has always shared her devotion to the mission of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. He is currently the Vice Chairman for Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein and is one of the four founding partners of Wasserstein Parella Group, Inc. I have tremendous respect for their selfless dedication to peace and their impressive record of accomplishments in advancing humanitarian goals. They are shining examples of leadership and commitment to a more humane society, and I am proud to call them good friends.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sheila and Bill Lambert, and Rabbi Rubinstein for receiving the International Humanitarian Award. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank them for their contributions to community service and wish them continued success well into the future.